

In the Claims:

Please add the following new claims:

110. (New) A biodegradable sulfate composition comprising sulfates of an alkyl branched primary alcohol composition having an average chain length per molecule of from 8~~14~~ to 36~~19~~ carbon atoms, wherein said alcohol composition has an average number of branches per molecule of ~~at least~~ 0.7 to 2.3, less than 0.5 atom % of quaternary carbon atoms, and said branching comprises methyl and ethyl branches and 5% to 30% of the number of branches are ethyl branches and from 5 to 25% of the number of branches are on the C₂ atoms of the composition.
111. (New) The biodegradable sulfate composition of claim 110 wherein the average number of branches per chain ranges from 1.5 to 2.3.
112. (New) The biodegradable sulfate composition of claim 110 wherein said alcohol composition contains less than 5% linear alcohols.
113. (New) The biodegradable sulfate composition of claim 112 wherein said alcohol composition contains less than 3% linear alcohols.
114. (New) The biodegradable sulfate composition of claim 110 wherein from 10-20% of the number of branches are on the C₂ atoms of the alcohol composition.
115. (New) The biodegradable sulfate composition of claim 110 wherein from 10-50% of the number of branches are on the C₃ atoms of the alcohol composition.
116. (New) The biodegradable sulfate composition of claim 115 wherein from 15-30% of the number of branches are on the C₃ atoms of the alcohol composition.
117. (New) The biodegradable sulfate composition of claim 110 wherein from 10% to 20% of the number of branches are ethyl branches.
118. (New) The biodegradable sulfate composition of claim 110 wherein the average number of branches per chain ranges from 0.7 to 2.1.
119. (New) The biodegradable sulfate composition of claim 110 wherein the average chain length per molecule is from 14 to 17 carbon atoms.